

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN NEW YORK

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTO 14029

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SYG, US

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER

1. PLEASE INFORM PRESIDENCY FOR PRESIDENT ASAD'S INFORMATION THAT I HAD A MEETING AT MY INITIATIVE THIS MORNING IN NEW YORK WITH PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER MUTI AND UN PERMREP ASHTAL. AT MUTI'S REQUEST MEETING WAS OFF-THE-RECORD. WE ARE THEREFORE SAYING NOTHING ABOUT IT TO THE PRESS AND ASK THAT SYRIANS HOLD THIS INFORMATION CLOSELY, BUT I WANT PRESIDENT ASAD TO KNOW OF IT IN SPIRIT OF CLOSE BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN US.

2. YOU SHOULD SAY THAT I TOLD MUTI OF MY HIGH REGARD FOR PRESIDENT ASAD, WHICH HE RULLY RECRIPROCATED, AND THAT I TOOK OCCASION TO RECALL THE TIME WHEN ONE OF MY VISITS TO DAMASCUS COINCIDED WITH VISIT PDRY PRESIDENT ALI, TO WHO ASAD CONVEYED A MESSAGE ON MY BEHALF.

3. IN ADDITION TO REVIEWING GENERAL SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST AND STRESSING THAT IT IS NOT U.S. POLICY TO DIVIDE THE ARAB WORLD, I EMPHASIZED TO MUTI THAT FROM OUR VIEWPOINT THERE ARE NO OBSTACLES TO RESTORATION OF US-PDRY RELATIONS. MUTI INDICATED DESIRE FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO BE REESTABLISHED, PROBABLY EARLY

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NEXT YEAR, AND ASKED THAT U.S. DELEGATION VISIT ADEN

BEFORE THAT TO PREPARE THE WAY. WE HAVE TENTATIVELY
AGREED TO SEND SUCH A DELEGATION IN DECEMBER, LOOKING
TOWARD FORMAL RESTORATION OF RELATIONS IN JANUARY,
ALTHOUGH THERE COULD, OF COURSE, ALWAYS BE SOME SLIPPAGE
IN THIS TIMETABLE.

4. I THINK YOU SHOULD ALSO FIND WAY TO INFORM KHADDAM
WHEN HE RETURNS, SAYING THAT I ASKED YOU TO DO SO ON MY
BEHALF SINCE MEETING WITH MUTI TOOL PLACE AFTER I SAW HIM
IN NEW YORK.

KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

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